



# FRONTIER 6 SENDS

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*"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die."*

- Dwight D. Eisenhower

Many of us look forward to enjoying the free time associated with this upcoming Independence Day weekend. It will be a welcome break, but more importantly the weekend provides us time to reflect on the sacrifices made for our freedom and, as President Eisenhower suggested, refresh our lives with the spirit of liberty.

In the history of our nation, there are certain defining moments that shape our sense of who we are as a people. On Independence Day, we celebrate one such moment. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 233 years ago, a group of brave American colonists boldly declared their independence.

Our forefathers in the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence that set our course toward a land of freedom and liberty. The sound heard on that date was not of weapons firing on the battlefield but of bells ringing in a church tower in Philadelphia. They announced that the new nation had declared its independence.

We need only turn on the T.V. for five minutes to see that people across the world desire the liberty and freedoms we have in this great Nation. Thomas Jefferson once said, "How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of..." We must remember the price paid by our brave men and women from 1776 to the present and recognize that freedom is not free.

Let us also take a moment to remember those in uniform overseas that will lace up their boots, put on their rucksack, and head out on point to defend our Nation during this Independence Day weekend. Keep these men and women and their families in your thoughts as the fireworks explode on 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

While it is great to focus on the historic roots of this significant day, we do want all to remain safe. Please take a moment to plan your activities in a safe manner. Whether you stay to enjoy the activities planned for the Fort Leavenworth Independence Day Celebration or leave for the weekend, have a safe and meaningful holiday.

Thank you for your service. Thank you for protecting our independence and our American way of life.

WILLIAM B. CALDWELL, IV  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding